IN THE CLAIMS:

Amendments to Claims 25 and 35 of the Examiner's amendment:

1.   **(Currently amended)** A computer-based method for electronic communication between consumer goods trading partners, comprising:

providing ~~establishing~~, by a computer, an electronic communication link ~~a software application program which communicates~~ between first and second trading partners ~~over an electronic communication link~~;

~~inputting~~ defining, by the computer, user-defined extended data attributes ~~by the first trading partner~~ into a plurality of tables through a graphical user interface, the tables including,

(a)   a first table for providing extended data definitions of each extended data attribute, each extended data definition in the first table including an extended data definition identification field, extended data name field, extended data type field, extended data description field, extended entity type field, and unique link to the second trading partner,

(b)   a second table for correlating each extended data type field used in the first

table, the second table including an extended data type field, extended data type name field, and extended data type description field,

(c)   a third table for correlating each extended entity type used in the first table,

the third table including an extended entity type field and extended entity type name field, and

d) a fourth table for correlating the extended data definition identification used in the first table, the fourth table including an entity owner of the extended data type definition and values for each extended data attribute;

transmitting, by the computer, standard data attributes to the second trading partner; and

transmitting, by the computer, the extended data attributes from the plurality of tables as an XML-message to the second trading partner.

2.   **(Previously presented)** The computer-based method of claim 1, wherein the

extended data attributes are selected from the group consisting of product, pricing, and trade promotions.

3-5. **(Canceled)**

6. **(Currently amended)** The computer-based method of claim 1, wherein defining the user-defined extended data attributes includes further including using pre-determined security measures to provide authorization for trading partners to input the extended data attributes into the plurality of tables.

7. **(Previously presented)** The computer-based method of claim 1, further including establishing the electronic communication link through the Internet.

8-20. **(Canceled)**

21. **(Previously presented)** The computer-based method of claim 1, wherein the unique link to the second trading partner includes a global location number.

22. **(Previously presented)** The computer-based method of claim 21, wherein the extended entity type identification includes a designation for product, price, and promotion.

23. **(Previously presented)** The computer-based method of claim 1, wherein the first table further includes a field to designate whether extended data is required by the second trading partner.

24. **(Previously presented)** The computer-based method of claim 1, wherein the extended data types are numeric, date, and text string.

25. **(Currently amended)** The compute[[s]]r-based method of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface includes a plurality of data entry screens for creation and maintenance of the extended data attributes as defined in the first, second, third, and fourth tables.

26. **(Currently amended)** A computer-implemented method for electronic communication between trading partners, comprising:

establishing, by a computer, an electronic communication link between first and second trading partners;

transmitting, by the computer, standard data attributes associated with a commercial transaction from the first trading partner to the second trading partner;

defining, by the computer, extended data attributes associated with the commercial transaction in a plurality of tables through a graphical user interface, the tables including,

(a) a first table for providing extended data definitions of each extended data attribute, each extended data definition in the first table including an extended data definition identification field, extended data name field, extended data type field, extended data description field, extended entity type field, and unique link to the second trading partner,

(b) a second table for correlating each extended data type field used in the first

table, the second table including an extended data type field, extended data type name field, and extended data type description field,

(c) a third table for correlating each extended entity type used in the first table.

the third table including an extended entity type field and extended entity type name field, and

(d) a fourth table for correlating the extended data definition identification used in

the first table, the fourth table including an entity owner of the extended data type definition and values for each extended data attribute; and

transmitting, by the computer, the extended data attributes over the electronic communication link from the first trading partner to the second trading partner.

27. **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 26, wherein the electronic communication link is routed through the Internet.

28. **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 26, wherein the extended entity type identification includes a designation for product, price, and promotion.

29. **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 25, wherein the graphical user interface includes a plurality of data entry screens for creation and maintenance of the extended data attributes as defined in the first, second, third, and fourth tables.

30. **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 26, wherein the extended data attributes relate to product, price, and promotion.

31. **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 26, wherein the extended data attributes are transmitted as XML-based messages.

32. **(Currently amended)** A computer-implemented method for electronic communication between trading partners, comprising:

establishing, by a computer, an electronic communication link between first and second trading partners;

transmitting, by the computer, standard data attributes associated with a commercial transaction from the first trading partner to the second trading partner;

defining, by the computer, extended data attributes associated with the commercial transaction in a plurality of tables through a graphical user interface, the tables including,

(a) a first table for providing extended data definitions of each extended data attribute, each extended data definition in the first table including an extended data definition identification field, extended data type field, and extended entity type field ,

(b) a second table for correlating each extended data type field used in the first

table,

(c) a third table for correlating each extended entity type used in the first table,

and

(d)   a fourth table for correlating the extended data definition identification used in

the first table; and

transmitting, by the computer, the extended data attributes over the electronic communication link from the first trading partner to the second trading partner.

33.   **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the first table further includes an extended data name field, extended data description field, and unique link to the second trading partner.

34.   **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the second table includes an extended data type field, extended data type name field, and extended data type description field.

35.   **(Currently amended)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the third table ~~including~~ includes an extended entity type field and extended entity type name field.

36.   **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the fourth table includes an entity owner of the extended data type definition and values for each extended data attribute.

37.   **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the graphical user interface includes a plurality of data entry screens for creation and maintenance of the extended data attributes as defined in the first, second, third, and fourth tables.

38.   **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the extended data attributes relate to product, price, and promotion.

39. **(Previously presented)** The computer-implemented method of claim 32, wherein the extended data attributes are transmitted as XML-based messages.

40-48. **(Canceled)**